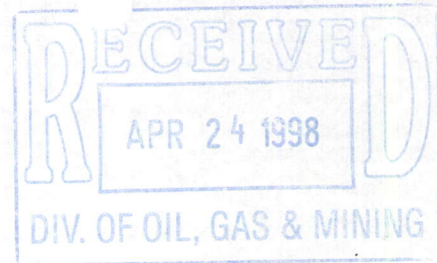


ROBERT E COVINGTON  
CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST NO. 1705  
P.O. BOX 1845  
VERNAL, UTAH 84078



PHONE (801) 789-3233  
FAX (801) 789-4560

April 23, 1998

Stan Perkes, Mining Engineer  
Utah State Office  
Bureau of Land Management  
324 South State Street Suite 301  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Re: Environmental Assessment to Accompany  
Mine Plan for Little Bonanza Mine  
Section 15,, Township 9 South --Range 24 East  
Uintah County, Utah  
U.S.Gilsonite Lease UTU 76312

Dear Stan:

Enclosed for your review and evaluation are two (2) copies of the Environmental Impact Statement for the above cited project. We will appreciate any assistance which you may be able to give us in order to receive the approval on the plan.

We do appreciate the assistance which you have given us on this and other related Ziegler projects. Norman has asked me to also thank you for the help you have given him in his operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert E. Covington".

ROBERT E. COVINGTON, CPGS #1705  
Consultant for Ziegler Chemical & Mineral Corp.

cc: Gordon S..Ziegler, Jr..  
Norman R..Haslem  
Vernal District Office, BLM  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
files.